

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/AU2004/000898

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. ⁷: F16B 19/04, 29/00, 31/04, 39/24, 43/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

DWPI IPC: F16B 19/(all), 29/(all), 31/(all), 35/(all), 39/24, 43/ (all) with keywords (head, elastic, deflect, curved)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5547326 A (OVERHUES) 20 August 1996 Whole document	
X	US 5112178 A (OVERHUES ET AL.) 12 May 1992 Whole document	
X	US 3992974 A (MIKI ET AL.) 23 November 1976 Whole document	
X	EP 66794 A1 (RUSSEL, BURDSAL & WARD CORPORATION) 15 December 1982 Whole document	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C

☒ See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search
9 September 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report
17 SEP 2004

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 2001/066964 A1 (SMOLAREK) 13 September 2001 Whole document	
X	DE 2162523 A (HEIDENREICH) 28 June 1973 Whole document	
X	SU 1649144 A1 (VOLGODIZELMASH) 15 May 1991 Whole document	
X	JP 2003097525 A (NITTO SEIKO KK) 3 April 2003 Whole document	

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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
See the extra sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of Boxes I to VIII is not sufficient)

Continuation of Box No: III

The present application has 212 claims with 58 independent claims, including multiple definitions by different results to be achieved. Prima facie, there is also lack of unity a priori. The claims as a whole are within the examples provided by Chapter 9 of international searches to be conducted only to the extent practically possible.

Consequently, the international search has been conducted for the following combination of features:

A fastener comprising an elastically deflectable portion including curved load bearing surface.

Consequently the International Search Report and Opinion will not categorise any citation to particular claim.

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This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member			
US	5547326	EP	0674110		
US	5112178	DE	4025146	EP	0470433 JP 6042523
US	3992974	JP	50133365		
EP	0066794	JP	58000610	US	4431353
WO	0166964	AU	40338/01	CA	2439416 EP 1292777
		US	2003077143		
DE	2162523				
SU	1649144				
JP	2003097525				
Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.					
END OF ANNEX					